REMARKS

Claims 1-20 are pending. Claims 1-20 are rejected.

Claims 2, 10, and 16 have been canceled with the limitations recited in these claims being incorporated into amended independent claims 1, 9, and 15, respectively.

Specification

The cross- reference section of the specification has been amended to include the appropriate serial numbers and filing dates for the cross-referenced applications.

Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. § 112

Claim 2 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. Claim 2 has been canceled in this office action, as discussed above.

Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 1, 2, 7-11, 13-15, and 16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Publication No. 2001/0005695 to Dent (hereinafter "*Dent*") in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,729,537 issued to Billstrom (hereinafter "*Billstrom*").

Claims 3-6, 12, and 17-20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over *Dent* in view of *Billstrom*, and further in view of Publication No. 2002/0059425 to Belfiore et al. (hereinafter "*Belfiore*").

REMARKS

The present invention generally relates to a remote services system that provides a process for confirming the identity of a message sender by comparing the claimed identity contained in the message itself against the network identity of the sender. More specifically, in the present invention, the identity is verified by comparing the identity claimed in the application software level with the identity claimed in the network software level. The system and method of applicant's invention is described in more detail in the Detailed Description, particularly in the

discussion beginning on page 20, line 20 continuing to page 30, line 15 and in Figures 13a,b and 14-16.

Independent claims 1, 9 and 15 have been amended to recite that the identity verification is accomplished by comparing the identity claimed in the application software level with the identity claimed in the network software level. These limitations were previously recited in dependent claims 2, 10 and 16, which have been canceled in this Response.

Dependent claims 2, 10 and 16 were previously rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Dent in view of Billstrom. However, neither the Dent reference nor the Billstrom reference teaches the verification of an identity by comparing the identity claimed in the application software level with the identity claimed in the network software level. Since independent claims 1, 9, and 15 now recite this feature that is not shown in the prior art, it is respectfully submitted that these claims are allowable over the prior art. In addition, dependent claims 3-8, 11-14, and 17-20 are allowable since they are dependent from an allowable independent claim.

<div align="center"><u>CONCLUSION</u></div>

In view of the amendments and remarks set forth herein, Applicant respectfully submits that all pending claims are in condition for allowance. Accordingly, Applicant requests that a Notice of Allowance be issued. Nonetheless, should any issues remain that might be subject to resolution through a telephone interview, the Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned at 512-338-9100.

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop Amendment, COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on January 23, 2006.

_____ 1/23/06
Attorney for Applicant(s)   Date of Signature

Respectfully submitted,
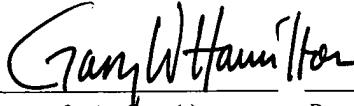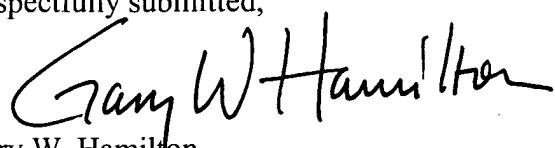
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